

The attached Appendix includes a marked-up copy of each rewritten claim (37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii)).

At the outset, Applicants are puzzled as to the reason provided by the Examiner (see page 2 of the March 10 Office Action) in his withdrawal of allowability of the pending claims, especially in view of the fact that the Examiner has considered and applied the same reference, U.S. Patent No. 5,895,692 to Shirasaki et al. (hereinafter "Shirasaki") and concluded that the "closest prior art Shirasaki... fail[s] to teach or suggest the claimed structures or methods." (See November 19, 2002 Office Action, page 2) Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner is correct in the November 19, 2002 Office Action allowing claims 25-38 over the prior art.

I. The Claims Define Allowable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 25-38 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,895,692 to Shirasaki et al. (hereinafter "Shirasaki"). Claims 25-34, 37 and 38 have been cancelled. Thus, the rejection is respectfully traversed with respect to claims 35 and 36.

Shirasaki fails to teach or suggest a method of manufacturing an organic EL device, comprising, *inter alia*, forming at least one luminescent layer having a certain color and made of an organic compound on or above first electrodes by an ink-jet method, said at least one luminescent layer including a plurality of pixel luminescent layers that physically contact each other, as claimed in independent claims 35 and 36.

In contrast, Shirasaki, at col. 4, lines 42-66, col. 5, lines 58-62, col. 9, lines 46-50, and in Figs. 1, 8B and 9B, discloses that the color luminescent portions 13a, 13b, 13c of the formed luminescent layer 13 are separated from each other.

Further, Shirasaki fails to teach or suggest forming at least one luminescent layer by means of the ink-jet method being performed by discharging a luminescent material composition from a nozzle toward the substrate and onto an underlying layer, the underlying

layer constituting a different layer relative to the at least one luminescent layer, the luminescent material composition serving as luminescence function and carrier transfer function in the formed at least one luminescent layer, as claimed in independent claims 35 and 36.

Instead, Shirasaki, at col. 7, lines 3-7, 15-21, and Figures 6A, 6B, 7A and 7B, discloses that

a material for the hole transport layer such as poly-N-vinylcarbazole (PVCZ) [is] made a layer by the wet process such as the spin coating or dip coating or by the vapor deposition on the transparent electrodes 12 to provide the hole transport layer 16.

the fluorescent pigment R being capable of emitting red luminescent color, the fluorescent pigment G being capable of emitting green luminescent color and the fluorescent pigment B being capable of emitting blue luminescent color are separately applied by the screen printing or ink-jetting to the hole transport layer 16.

(emphasis added)

Thus, in Shirasaki, only the luminescent pigments R, G and B having a luminescence function are provided by an ink-jet method, while the portion serving as carrier transfer function in the formed luminescent layer, i.e., the hole transport layer 16, is formed using a wet process or a vapor deposition process.

For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 35 and 36 are distinguishable over the applied art. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 35 and 36 under 35 U.S.C. §103 is respectfully requested.

New claims 39-45 are likewise distinguishable over the applied art for at least the reasons discussed above.

II. Conclusion

For at least the reasons discussed above, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed above.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

George P. Simion
Registration No. 47,089

JAO:GPS/hs

Attachment:
Appendix

Date: June 4, 2003

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
--

APPENDIX

Changes to Claims:

Please cancel claims 25-34, 37 and 38.

The following is a marked-up version of the amended claims:

35. (Amended) A method of manufacturing an organic EL device, comprising-
the steps of:
- forming first electrodes on or above a substrate;
 - forming at least one luminescent layer having a certain color and made of an organic compound on or above first electrodes by patterning an ink-jet method, said at least one luminescent layer including a plurality of pixel luminescent layers that physically contact each other, ~~and are respectively provided on or above the predetermined first electrodes;~~ and
 - forming a second electrode opposing the first electrodes,
- the formation of said at least one luminescent layer ~~being performed by means of an~~ the ink-jet method so that a thus formed luminescent layer can be used as a final pattern in which the respective pixel luminescent layers of the luminescent layer have a predetermined shape and are arranged in a predetermined order, the formation of the at least one luminescent layer being performed by discharging a luminescent material composition at least a part of which becomes the at least one luminescent layer from a nozzle toward the substrate and onto an underlying layer ~~so as to form the at least one luminescent layer on the underlying layer,~~ the underlying layer constituting a different layer relative to the at least one luminescent layer, the luminescent material composition serving as luminescence function and carrier transfer function in the formed at least one luminescent layer.
36. (Amended) An organic EL device manufactured via a nozzle, comprising:
- a substrate;
 - first electrodes provided on or above the substrate;

~~an underlying layer;~~

at least one luminescent layer, each of which includes a plurality of pixel luminescent layers respectively formed on or above predetermined first electrodes and each of which has a certain color and is made of an organic compound, the luminescent layers physically contacting each other and formed above the first electrodes by patterning by means of an ink-jet system ~~so that a thus formed luminescent layer can be used as a final pattern in which the respective pixel luminescent layers of the luminescent layer have a predetermined shape and are arranged in a predetermined order~~, the formation of the at least one luminescent layer being performed by discharging a luminescent material composition ~~at least a part of which becomes the at least one luminescent layer~~ from the nozzle toward the substrate and onto ~~the an underlying layer so as to form the at least one luminescent layer on the underlying layer~~, the underlying layer constituting a different layer relative to the at least one luminescent layer, the luminescent material composition serving as luminescence function and carrier transfer function in the formed at least one luminescent layer; and

a second electrode formed on or above the luminescent layers.

Claims 39-45 are added.